



Rome team wins IEEE supercomputing challenge

by Francis L. Crumb, Information Directorate

ROME, N.Y. — A six-member team from the Air Force Research Laboratory Information Directorate captured two of four awards presented at November's Super Computing 2000 High Performance Computing (HPC) Games Challenge sponsored by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE).

The HPC Challenge for SC2000 was to build the fastest supercomputer possible for \$10,000 or less. Entries were judged on more than 60 standard computer benchmarks, measuring performance of single processor computation, memory systems, communications, and parallel computation.

Four teams were entered in the 15-hour competition: the Red Team from the directorate's Information Technology Division; the Aggregate Team from the University of Kentucky; the Black Lab Linux Team from CSPI Inc.; and the MITRE Team from MITRE Corp. of Bedford Mass.

Red Team members included: James P. Hanna, 1st Lt. Peter Y. Hsieh, Robert G. Hillman, Zenon J. Pryk, Wilmar W. Sifre and Walter A. Koziarz. They built and operated the Computational Cluster of Commodity Processors (CCCP) entry to the HPC Challenge.

The efforts and expertise won team members the competition's Grand Prize and the Most Innovative Software Prize. Gordon Bell, a senior researcher at Microsoft Corp. and philanthropist, sponsored the awards. @